implementing agencies in different States are not kept at Government of India level.

Wages paid to labourers under PMGSY

†2347. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI. Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the wages paid to the labourers working on roads being constructed under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana,

(b) whether these wages are uniform in all the States of the country;

(c) if so, the details thereof, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL) (a) to (d) Rural roads is a State subject and funds under the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) are released to State Government agencies for construction of rural roads Contracts for construction are entered into by State Government agencies. The Standard Bidding Document prescribed under the PMGSY provides that the contractor is to pay not less than the minimum wages as per the provisions of Minimum Wages Act, 1948 The Act empowers the State Governments to fix the minimum wages There is no requirement that the wages sould be uniform in all the States.

New parameter to define BPL

2348 SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state

(a) whether Government are contemplating to redefine the Below Poverty Line (BPL) in terms of parameters of land, housing, clothing, education, health and sanitation besides the earlier parameters, *i e.* level of calories consumption, and

(b) if so, the details of proposed new parameters to redefine BPL people in urban and rural areas, separately?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi